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For Immediate Release

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REPORTS WEEKLY RESULTS OF ST. LOUIS REGIONAL CEASEFIRE INITIATIVE

St. Louis, Missouri: The following represents the prosecution activities under the St. Louis Regional Ceasefire Initiative, a component of the Bush Administration's Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today.

These cases are the result of the collaborative efforts of federal and local law enforcement including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office, the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the U.S. Marshal's Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department.

This week's results of Project Safe Neighborhood/Ceasefire are as follows:

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

SANCHEZ E. SMOTHERMAN, 31, Neville Walk, St. Louis, 63136, was sentenced to 30 months in prison on one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

PATRICK BELK, 32, of Brigadoon, St. Louis County, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Belk now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for March 2006.

MARLO BRIDGES, 25, of the 4900 block of Claxton, St. Louis, 63115, pled guilty to one felony count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Bridges now faces a penalty range of five years to life in prison. Sentencing has been set for March 21, 2006.

TERRON CHILDS, 37, of the 4900 block of Suburban Tracks, St. Louis, 63108, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Childs now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing has been set for March 17, 2006.

JODY JORDAN, 21, of the 3100 block of Rogers, St. Louis, was indicted by a federal grand jury on two felony counts of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and one felony count of carrying a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. If convicted, the drug counts each carry a penalty range of five to 40 years in prison; the weapons charge carries a range of five years to life in prison.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.